The Die Is Cast and Japan's
100,000,000 Will See
It Through

Nippon Times

Let Us Be the Corner-Stone
Of the Construction of
Greater East Asia!

No. 16,020 (THE 18th YEAR of SHOWA) TOKYO, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1943 第三種郵便物認可 昭和十五年十二月二十七日 Price 15 Sen

15 U.S. PLANES BROUGHT DOWN IN NEW GUINEA

Japanese Navy Unit Engages 20 Enemy P-40's Near Finschhafen

AUSTRALIANS ARE BOMBED

Anti-Axis Headquarters Admits Blasting of Positions in Southwestern Pacific

Domei

AT X X BASE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, October 29.—In an engagement with about 20 enemy P-40's near Finschhafen, New Guinea Island, at about 3:30 p.m. on October 27, an Imperial Navy Air Unit downed 15 of them (3 of them unconfirmedly). Our loss consists of one plane self-blasted and four not yet returned.

Enemy Positions Bombed

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, October 29.—The Anti-Axis Headquarters in the Southwestern Pacific in its communique today announced that Japanese Air Units bombed positions of the Australian forces in the Finschhafen district, according to Melbourne dispatches received here.

U.S. Ships Torpedoed

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, October 29.—The United States Navy Department announced that the excursion steamers "Boston" and the "New York" which plied between those cities for 17 years had been torpedoed and sunk in the North Atlantic, according to reports from Washington.

Greek Ship Torpedoed

Domei

ISTANBUL, October 29.—A Greek torpedo boat, taking part on the anti-Axis side, was sunk near the Dodecanese and about 60 members of the crew have reached Izmir.

IF NOMINATED, MACARTHUR MAY RUN FOR PRESIDENT

General Cannot Make Any Statement While at the Front, Says Hoyt

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, October 29.—General Douglas MacArthur, Commander-in-Chief of the anti-Axis forces in the Southwestern Pacific will become the Republican presidential candidate if given the nomination, according to Lansing Hoyt, in a dispatch received from Milwaukee.

Speaking at the meeting, Hoyt was asked if General MacArthur had given any personal indication that he is interested in becoming a candidate, and he replied that "the General is a soldier fighting at the front and could not make any public statement but that there are other ways of finding out what the situation is."

General MacArthur reaches the statutory army retirement age of 64 on January 26 next year.

FUEL SHORTAGE COMPELS U.S. TO IMPROVE QUALITY

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, October 28.—With the United States confronted with a dire shortage of gasoline, a new plan for the production of 100 octane gasoline for airplanes was announced by Harold Ickes, Wartime Oil Administrator, yesterday according to Washington reports.

"If 1,000 4-motored heavy bombers use 100 octane gasoline instead of 90 octane gasoline, they will be able to carry 5,000,000 pounds more load," he said. "But the oil refineries producing 100 octane gasoline were only 22 in January, 1942. However with an outlay of more than $500,000,000 the Government planned the establishment of more refineries and in June, 1943, 100 octane gasoline came to be produced at 47 refineries throughout the country. The Government has now another plan of increasing the total number of such refineries producing 100 octane gasoline to 126 in all."

64 Soviet Planes Downed

Domei

BERLIN, October 29.—German air forces operating in the Eastern Front shot down 64 Soviet planes Reich military authorities announced today.

Nanking Citizens Jubilant Over Alliance Pact Signing

President Wang Given Ovation When He Emerges From Grand Hall After Signatures Are Affixed: Throngs Parade Through Streets

Domei

NANKING, October 30.—The conclusion of the Alliance Pact with Nippon was celebrated here today amid a gala atmosphere, under superb autumnal weather.

Early in the day, the citizens were informed over the ether: "There will be an important announcement today. Kindly keep the switch turned on."

At 11:00 a.m. the radio flashed the news of the conclusion of the historic Pact. Instantly, there were outbursts of jubilation everywhere.

A rousing welcome greeted President Wang Ching-wei when he emerged from the Grand Hall of the National Government where he had signed the Pact. The mass celebration got under way. President Wang's fiery congratulatory oration thrilled the crowd to the highest pitch of excitement.

Parade Through Streets

The speech over, the enrapt crowd, blocks long, started out on their celebration parade through the main streets, passing before the Government Building, the Japanese Embassy, the General Headquarters of the Japanese Army and the Naval Attaches' Office.

Eight representatives of the citizens paid calls on various Japanese organs and presented their declaration addressed to the Japanese Government and gratitude resolution addressed to Japanese Ambassador Masayuki Tani.

Hoisted aloft on the temporary celebration towers erected on every street corner was a spirited ten-point slogan urging the people to: "Defend the Pact and realize a general peace founded on justice. Propel the strengthening of the morality Alliance! Be powerful friends of Nippon! Demand Chungking not to turn our country into a battleground for the Anglo-Americans!"

A touching scene was enacted before the statue of the late Dr. Sun Yat-sen when an unending succession of people reverently offered bouquets in congratulation of the attainment of the great cause bequeathed by the Father of China.

ENEMY SUFFERING MOUNTING LOSSES

Ratio Is 5 to 1 in Planes and Several Times in Men, Spokesman Reveals

Domei

SHANGHAI, October 30.—While the anti-Axis forces in the southwest Pacific are sacrificing men and materials recklessly in costly island to island offensive, the Japanese, entrenched behind the bulwark of their frontline defenses, are using their resources in preparation for another general offensive against the enemy, the Chief of the Japanese Army Press Bureau here declared in a weekly Chinese press conference on Friday.

The Japanese, husbanding troops and resources, have been cutting losses to a minimum. The enemy losses in this sector compared with Japan on the other hand, average between four and five to one in planes, while losses in men are several times higher and "book-keeping of the enemy's war strategy does not balance," he said.

The Chief of the Japanese Army Press Bureau added that an offensive launched by the anti-Axis forces in the South Pacific is to be expected in this stage of the war, but this has been anticipated by the Japanese and proper counter-measures have been taken.

He stated that outwardly the enemy seems to have made progress. In the six months since Guadalcanal, the anti-Axis forces have taken a few islands of the Solomons group and a part of New Guinea. Yet, these gains represent only a little dent in the area occupied by Japanese.

By comparison, the enemy gains are "nothing to talk about," he concluded.

U.S. TO STOP WORK ON 427 SUB-CHASERS

Other Types of Warcraft for Amphibious Operations to Be Built

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, October 29.—America will stop work on the 427 submarine-chasers it is building, Frank Knox, American Secretary of the Navy announced today in connection with the change in America's shipbuilding plan. The step was taken, he claimed, "in view of the decreased submarine threat in the Atlantic." In place of the sub-chasers, other types of war craft for amphibious operations will be constructed, Knox declared.

Wang Entertains Tani

Domei

NANKING, October 30.—Felicitating the signing of the Chinese-Japanese Alliance here this morning, President Wang Ching-wei of the National Government of China gave a luncheon party today to Masayuki Tani, Japanese Ambassador to China, and 10 other high Japanese officials. Dr. Chu Min-yi, Chinese Foreign Minister, and nine other Chinese officials who figured prominently in the conclusion of the pact also attended the function.

JAPANESE TIGHTEN ENCIRCLEMENT RING

Chungking Spokesman Admits All Crossing Points of Nu River Taken

Domei

LISBON, October 29.—The Japanese Forces on the western bank of the Nu river are steadily narrowing down their iron encirclement ring against the Chungking army.

A spokesman of the Chungking Military Council in an interview with foreign correspondents today announced that the fighting had now come to be concentrated around Mamienkwan, 40 miles northeast of Tungyueh and the only key point in the Kaolikang range, according to dispatches received from the Chiang capital.

The same spokesman admitted that the Japanese had captured all the crossing points, except in a very small area.

The Chungking forces are making futile attempts to wriggle out of the encirclement through this small area.

Front line reports indicate that the Japanese, while restraining the enemy on the eastern bank of the Nu river by bombardment, are trying to cut the enemy's retreat in the rear of Mamienkwan, about 4,000 feet above sea level, and that the perfecting of a large encirclement ring is now considered a matter of time.

Meanwhile, the same Chungking spokesman revealed that Burmese troops were among the Japanese Forces that had advanced to the Piemma area from Myitkyina.

Tambru Enemy Bombed

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN BURMA, October 29.—Imperial Army Air Forces operating on the Burma front bombed enemy barracks and warehouses at Tambru on the upper reaches of the Naaf River on the morning of October 28. All bombs hit the objectives aimed and one place was set on fire. Despite fierce enemy anti-aircraft fire, all the Japanese planes returned safely.

HINDU NEW YEAR REVEALS INDIANS SOLIDLY UNITED

All Religious and Party Differences Swept Away by Mighty Wave of Nationalism

Domei

SHANGHAI, October 29.—The local Indian community—Parsees, Mohammedans, Hindus, Sikhs and others—faced the New Year in the Hindu calendar on Friday, with new hope and resolution in their four-centuries-old dream of a free and united India.

Religious and provincial differences which made Indians a divided people and a prey to imperialism in the past, have been lost in the mighty surge of nationalism inspired by Subhas Chandra Bose and the Provisional Government of Free India at Shonan.

TANI PREDICTS BRIGHT FUTURE FOR EAST ASIA

Ambassador to China States Joint Task Will Be Promoted By Alliance

RESOLVE IS STRENGTHENED

Mission of Two Nations Will Be Promoted by Historic Event, Envoy Declares

There is no shred of doubt that the signing of the Treaty of Alliance between Japan and China will epochally promote the great task jointly undertaken by the two countries for the construction of Greater East Asia through prosecution of the war against the United States and Britain, Masayuki Tani, Japanese Ambassador to Nanking, declared in his address in the course of the ceremony marking the historic event Saturday.

Ambassador Tani's address, as given by the Yomiuri-Hochi, follows:

"Ever since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, conditions in this part of the world have undergone a complete change. It was in accordance with this changed situation that the Empire adopted its great policy of contributing to the completion of China's autonomy and independence, of helping China to rise and prosper, so that together we may set our shoulders to the task of building up Greater East Asia. The pact just concluded expresses the new relations thus established between us in a most solemn manner.

"I am convinced that the entire Chinese Republic will return to ways that are really hers and will go hand in hand with Japan for the common cause of Asia. The Empire has strengthened its resolve more than ever to bring the war to a successful consummation. I have not a shred of doubt that the great joint task of Japan and China will be epochally promoted by the signing of the present pact."

Today's Press Comments

Sunday, October 31, 1943

(Excerpts from important editorials which are appearing this morning in the leading vernaculars are published herewith. Translations of other editorials will be found daily in the Evening Edition of the Nippon Times.)

Crowning Act in New China Policy

ASAHI—The conclusion of the Sino-Japanese Alliance Treaty has expressed in a most solemn and irrevocable manner the moral spirit animating Japan which became all the more manifest since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia. It bespeaks Japan's resolve to embody that spirit into action.

It has been the avowed policy of Japan for many years to bring about harmonious unity among the nations of Greater East Asia with each member enjoying freedom and independence as a sovereign nation and to construct a new order in this part of the world so as to contribute to world peace.

With the War of Greater East Asia entering its second year, Japan undertook strongly to launch a new policy regarding China on the very day that the National Government declared war on the United States and Britain. There followed, on August 1, the independence of Burma, a treaty with Thailand, on August 20, concerning territory, a treaty with Burma, on September 25, also concerning territory, granting of the right to participate in their own government to the Indonesian people on September 25 and the independence of the Philippines on October 14. In these splendid events the Japanese moral spirit has taken concrete shape and Prime Minister Tojo's Greater East Asia construction declaration has been rapidly effectuated.

Let us look at this in the case of China. The National Government agreed completely with Japan's war aims, and declared war against America and Britain on January 9, this year, determined to live or die with Japan and to carry the joint war to a successful end. And the Japanese Government carried out powerfully the new policy toward China looking forward to an epochal development of the relationships between the two countries based on the fundamental spirit of Japanese-Chinese cooperation, and desiring deeply the swift construction of a new China based on Chinese sovereignty and independence and the manifestation of the National Government's political power.

Japan aided China's political independence, China's long-cherished wish, by retroceding all concessions in China and abolishing extrality, and at the same time in the economic field too is driving forward the sovereign revival of Chinese economy by loosening the limitations placed on the moving of commodities, returning or transferring old and new enemy assets and Army controlled factories, and abolishing the issuance of new Military notes. That is, the so-called new policy toward China has, as its greatest aim, the construction of Greater East Asia based on morals, and as its guiding idea, the three great principles of mutual amity, the securing of stability, and reciprocal equality.

China, on her part, forged ahead toward building up New China and, at the same time, showed proof of collaboration in the War of Greater East Asia. Sino-Japanese relations have thus been steadily promoted along the lines originally desired by Japan. In the meantime, with the expulsion of Anglo-American influences, Greater East Asia has been restored to its original form.

In order to cope with these new developments, it has been decided to revise fundamentally the Sino-Japanese Basic Treaty which has fulfilled its historic mission for three years since its conclusion on November 30, 1940.

The Alliance Pact just concluded is a foundation stone for permanent amity between the two countries and for the attainment of their common aim of building up Greater East Asia. In this sense, the Alliance Pact may be said to be the finishing touch to Japan's new China policy.

The task of Greater East Co-Prosperity Sphere building requires the cooperation of the peoples of that region to a great extent. Now, cooperation comes from mutual trust. By the conclusion of the latest pact, Japan and China pledge respect for each other's independence and sovereignty in a spirit of equity and reciprocity. It is sincerely to be hoped that the Chinese people, grasping fully the spirit of the pact and sharing the ideal of Greater East Asia, will fight shoulder to shoulder with us for the establishment of a New Order in this part of the world.

ALLIANCE WITH JAPAN IS HAILED BY WANG AS GRAND OUTGROWTH OF 2 COUNTRIES' FRIENDLY TIES

President Pledges China Will Carry Out Terms Of Treaty With Zeal

THANKS ENVOY TANI

Full Play Seen of Republic's National Strength in Prosecution of the War

Domei

NANKING, October 30.—The Treaty of Alliance between Japan and China concluded here today should be regarded as a grand outgrowth of the friendly feelings existing between the two countries and the moral spirit common to the two nations of the East, so that the National Government and the people of China will carry out the terms of the treaty with earnestness, zeal and determination, Wang Ching-wei, President of the Executive Yuan, stated in his address at the ceremony marking the signing of the treaty.

President Wang's address follows:

"It is a matter for profound felicitations that for the sake of lasting friendship between Japan and China and for the future of the Greater East Asia construction work, His Excellency the Ambassador and I have just signed a Sino-Japanese Treaty of Alliance, also a protocol annexed to the treaty and exchanged notes.

"What His Excellency the Ambassador has just declared evokes my heartiest concurrence. As His Excellency says, the conclusion of the present alliance pact is of epochal significance. While your glorious country has been bending her total strength ever since the outbreak of the War of Greater East

(Continued from Page 1)

See Glorious Future Ahead

President Wang Ching wei

Ambassador M. Tani

Sino-Japanese Relations Enter Epochal New Stage

Signing of New Pact of Alliance of Historic Significance—Nations Will Cooperate on Completely Equal Footing

Domei

NANKING, October 30.—The historical Sino-Japanese Pact of Alliance, which promises an epochal new stage in the relations between Japan and China, was signed in Nanking today, just one month preceding the third anniversary of the signing of the Japan-China Basic Treaty. The Basic Treaty was one which stipulated the normal relations between the two nations after the return of the National Government to Nanking. Since that time, the world situation has undergone drastic changes, and with the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, Anglo-American power in China was swept cleanly away. Following that, the National Government entered the war, and together with the enforcement of Japan's new policy toward China, the epochal stage of a life or death struggle together was entered.

Thus, Japan, in order to rationalize the relations between it and China to keep pace with the changes in the situation in East Asia, had, at every opportunity, been declaring its will to revise the Basic Treaty. The fact that today this has been brought about swiftly, and the Pact of Alliance between Japan and China signed, must indeed be called a predestined result which will impress itself deeply in history.

No Secret Treaties

The formation of the new pact means that the various promises prescribed in the Basic Treaty and the Documents attached thereto have lost their validity. The contents stipulate frankly and clearly that the two nations, on completely equal footing, will cooperate for the construction of Greater East Asia; behind them lie no secret treaties of any sort. The fact that such a fair and just treaty was established between Japan and China which formerly had fought each other is enough to take the world with surprise and astonishment. Also, it is probably something which countries such as America and Britain cannot ever understand.

To Withdraw Troops

Japan aided China's sovereignty and independence by the retrocession of concessions and the abolition of extrality, and now, going a step further, promises every necessary aid for China's recovery of its sovereignty, by the pledge of the Japan-China alliance. The fact that, in the protocol annexed to the pact, it is pledged that when general peace arrives and the state of war completely ended Japan will immediately withdraw its troops and that Japan renounces the right of stationing troops she possesses in accordance with the Peking Protocol and supplementary documents relating to the Boxer Rebellion, must be regarded as a great pledge which adds to the glory of the perfection of China's sovereignty and independence.

Chungking Misled

Contrasting this with the manner in which America and Britain are wildly drawing empty checks, leading Chungking by the nose and turning Chinese territory into a battlefield, the Chinese people cannot help being deeply impressed. Particularly, President Wang Ching-wei and the other leaders of the National Government value extremely highly the significance of the pact, holding that with its signing a huge stride forward was made toward the fruition of the movement for national founding through peace and negotiation.

The new pact promises to return the relations between Japan and China to their former level of equality and work in close cooperation for the construction of Greater East Asia, and at the same time pledges close economic working-together based on mutual giving. It is believed that through this the political power of the National Government, which stands for national founding through peace and negotiation, will take an epochal expansion. There is no room for doubt that the recovery of sovereignty through the restoration of peace and the adjustment of existent facts will contribute tremendously to the revival of China and the construction of Greater East Asia.

The new pact prescribes the diplomatic relations, based on morals, between Japan and China, and can be regarded as the key for the attainment of the final aim of the Chinese Revolution, which is the unified construction of China, and the realization of Sun Yat-sen's Greater Asianism. Thus, the significance of the signing of the Sino-Japanese Pact of Alliance today, when America and Britain are trying again to invade East Asia, is tremendous and far-reaching.

SPORTS MEETING SLATED

Shonan Arranges Giant Program to Fete Meiji Setsu

Domei

SHONAN, October 29.—A big sports carnival arranged for Meiji Setsu on November 3 by the Shonan Sports Association will get under way today when preliminaries in the amateur boxing tournament will be fought at the association's boxing arena.

The finals will be staged on November 5. Other events include inter-state matches in soccer, hockey, basket-ball and volley-ball between Shonan and Penang.

On November 3, mass radio calisthenics will take place and on November 7 swimming competitions will be held.

Pact Dispels Any Misgiving Over Nanking's Peace Movement

CHUNGKING HIT HARD

Object of Chiang's Resistance Against Nippon Is Nullified by New Treaty

Domei

NANKING, October 30.—The reaction of the Chinese Government and people to the conclusion of the Alliance Pact, news of which has been acclaimed throughout the country, may be summed up as follows:

1. The conclusion of the Alliance Pact is the logical outcome of the tightening of Sino-Japanese ties that has been witnessed since the restoration of diplomatic relations between the two countries when the National Government was returned to Nanking and, more recently, since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia.

Japan's sincerity as manifested in the new Pact will make the Chinese people, whether in the peace zones or in the "resistance" areas, change their opinion of Japan completely.

2. The present event has dispelled any misgivings regarding the Peace and National Salvation Movement carried on under the leadership of the Nanking Government. As the result, the general populace will be won over to Nanking and its political power will be strengthened phenomenally. Such developments point to the inevitable conclusion that, with the cooperation of the people at large, Nanking's policies will be carried out smoothly.

Resistance Object Nullified

3. The object of Chungking's resistance has been utterly nullified and this will accelerate the estrangement of the people from the Chiang regime at a quick tempo. Whether or not a general peace will be realized and the resultant withdrawal of the Japanese Forces will take place will hereafter depend entirely on Chungking. In other words, each day that the advent of a general peace is retarded will delay the withdrawal of the Japanese Forces that long. Thus, Chungking will be faced with the greatest difficulty it has ever experienced in retaining popular support.

4. Brought to a full appreciation of Japan's real intentions, the Chinese people have found a logical reason for collaboration in the prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia, and this will strengthen substantially the National Government's cooperation with Japan.

5. The conclusion of the Pact has driven America and Britain into betraying their cloven hoof and cannot but intensify the antipathy of all the East Asiatics toward the Anglo-Americans.

CHUNGKING IS FLAYED

Treacherous Attitude Toward East Asia Is Attacked

Domei

MEDAN, October 29.—Severely attacking the Chungking Regime's treacherous attitude toward Greater East Asia, the Kita Sumatra Shimbun editorially declared, "A British 'tool' brings no profit to Indonesians and is even harmful to all the Asiatic nations because it supports British, American and Dutch imperialism in Asia."

The paper said, "This danger cannot be wiped out by means of prayers and dreams or by passive attitude, but by a creation of a new spirit in the hearts of all genuine inhabitants in the Southern Regions, a spirit of patriotism based on consciousness of the true interest of the Indonesian people in the past, present and future."

Nippon Assets Liquidated

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, October 29.—The Brazilian Government today began the liquidation of 25 items of Japanese property, it is reported from Rio de Janeiro. At the head of the list is the property, amounting to a total of $100,000,000, belonging to an undisclosed Japanese

BEHARI BOSE ISSUES STIRRING RADIO PLEA

Time Now Here to Realize Freedom, He Tells Listeners In Homeland

Calling upon his suffering countrymen to rise, once and for all, in the cause of freedom for their Motherland, Rash Behari Bose, Supreme Advisor to the Provisional Government of Free India, broadcast a stirring appeal to his homeland from Tokyo, at 11:30 p.m. yesterday. With Japan's mighty aid assured and the Provisional Government of Free India firmly established, backed by a National Army, the time is now here, he assured his listeners, for them all to take up arms in the long-cherished cause.

The full text of Mr. Bose's address follows:

"Compatriots at home:

Since I last spoke to you a month ago from this station, the Indian Independence League in East Asia has made remarkable strides forward toward its object of ousting the Anglo-American enemies from the soil of India. I believe you know by now, despite the rigid British censorship, that a Provisional Government of Free India was established at Shonan, the former British stronghold of Singapore, under the leadership of Sjt. Subhas Chandra Bose, and that this Government of Free India, expressing the will and determination of the 400,000,000 of our countrymen, has formally declared war on our arch-enemies, Britain and the United States, thus commanding our entire nation to rise to arms in a united and concerted effort to wipe out these our mortal enemies from the sacred soil of India.

"Sisters and brothers in India, rejoice and take courage in the fact that you have today both a National Government and a National Army, not far from the borders of India, ready to come to your aid when the right moment arrives. What we have been long waiting for, wishing for, and striving for is a National Army and a National Government, both of which are now a concrete and actual reality.

Already, the great Japanese Empire has officially recognized the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, and has reiterated its intention, and I quote the exact words of the Imperial Japanese Government's declaration—"to give every possible cooperation and support in the Provisional Government's efforts to attain its object."

Moved by Japan's Sympathy

Indeed, I have been tremendously impressed during the past one month of my present visit in Japan by the profound sympathy every individual in this country is evincing for India's cause. India's miserable plight, the famine and pestilence that are sweeping that country today and the reckless and ruthless exploitation to which she is being subjected today by the Anglo-American invaders, have aroused the deepest chords of sympathy of the Japanese nation. I am profoundly encouraged and enthused by all the manifestations of sympathy and support by the Japanese people in every walk of life, and in every strata of society, which I witness around me today.

"It is the overwhelming, nationwide sympathy for India's cause entertained by Japan that is so powerfully reflected in the Diet Speech of Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo, in the House of Representatives, on the 26th of this month, and I quote his words:

"'It is truly a great pleasure for us to declare to the world through this Chamber that Japan is determined to support the Provisional Government of Free India consistently in the future and to put forth her utmost efforts for the independence and emancipation of India.

"'The complete independence and freedom of India and the lasting prosperity of her 400,000,000 people are what Japan sincerely desires. I have not the slightest doubt that in this purpose Japan may count not only upon the wholehearted cooperation of all the Greater East Asian peoples but also meet the earnest desire of all high-minded people throughout the world. It is my strong conviction that this rising tide of the movement for emancipation and the active cooperation of the peoples of Greater East Asia will inevitably bring in the not distant future the glorious day of independence, freedom and prosperity to India.'

"These were the powerful words of the Japanese Prime Minister in the Diet session on Tuesday, pledging all-out help and support for India's fight for freedom. Backed by this overwhelming sympathy and support of the Japanese Government and the Japanese nation, and the solid support of entire East Asia, the Indian National Army under the direction of the Provisional Government of Free India, headed by President Subhas Chandra Bose, is ready to march forward towards its goal of liberating India from British clutches.

"While the Indian National Army, burning with zeal and courage, is ready to come to your assistance, it depends upon you, and you alone, sisters and brothers in India, whether or not to make full use of this historic chance offered you by Providence. Never before were circumstances for India's freedom more favorable or more opportune. You have, today, not only a National Government and a National Army of your own outside the borders of India ready to come to your aid, but also the powerful cooperation and support of the mighty Japanese Empire, and the inexhaustible resources of entire East Asia. Never before in the two long centuries of bitter struggle against British aggression have you been favored with a better combination of circumstances to oust the tyrant from your homeland and regain your national sovereignty which is yours by birthright. Not to grapple the present opportunity with all your strength, and with all your ingenuity, resourcefulness and daring is the greatest crime on posterity and a disastrous national suicide from which there will be no resuscitation for centuries to come.

"Burma, your sister nation, after one long century under British tyranny and exploitation did not fail to seize the opportunity for freedom when it came knocking at her door. Like one man, the entire Burmese nation rose and clasped the helping hand extended by Japan and by one stroke exterminated the Anglo-American armies of occupation and today they are glorying in their newly won independence. The proud peacock emblem has displaced that badge of slavery, the Union Jack, and Burmans today walk with their heads erect, beholden to none, and masters of their rich ancestral soil, and proud inheritors of a rich culture.

"Another sister nation in East Asia, the Philippines has also thrown off its shackles, after a long night of serfdom to Spanish and American despotism, lasting for four centuries. The dream of martyred patriots who gave their lives for the liberty of their native islands has at last become a concrete reality, thanks to the self-sacrificing efforts and high idealism of the Japanese forces, and the patriotism and zeal of the Filipino people.

"Viewing the trend of world history, I feel confident that British doom in India is sealed, and that India's freedom is irresistable. Mighty historical forces have converged to save India before the final national disaster could overtake that country at Anglo-American hands.

What is happening in India today is a portent of what is in store for India were she to abandon herself to Anglo-American hands. While Anglo-American nations are blatantly claiming themselves as saviors of humanity, Indians are dropping down dead in the streets and thoroughfares of India's cities and towns, unfed, unclothed, and homeless. Famine and dread epidemics are raging throughout the country, and are taking enormous toll every day. The nation's loved and respected sons and daughters are languishing in the gloom of the prison cells. This is the fate accorded to India by Britain, while British leaders still desperately need India's cooperation to wage their losing war. What would be their treatment of India once their dire need for India's cooperation is over may better be imagined than described.

"The hour has arrived when India can no longer prevaricate. The path before my compatriots in India is crystal clear, and that is to strike the enemy everywhere and in every conceivable way, and strike him hard, and with all the force you can command. The enemy is already panic-stricken, and haunted by the shadow of his own inevitable defeat, and hence his desperate behavior on the innocent civilian populations of India. One united, concerted blow at this hour will seal his fate forever. While the Indian National Army will engage him in the van, it is the duty of every Indian to strike him from the rear. Caught between these two inexorable forces, the enemy will be inevitably vanquished and defeated—and you will be freed from British chains forever. I wish and pray the Almighty to give you the strength and courage to do your duty in this last and decisive battle for India's freedom.

BANDE MATARAM"

Rome Executes Communists

Domei

BERLIN, October 29.—The German authorities in the Rome area announced today that 10 Communists who had fired on German troops in Rome on Friday had been arrested, court martialed, and executed.

Burmese Envoy Thanks Japan

Dr. Thein Maung, Burmese Ambassador to Japan, responding to the welcome address given by Count Hideo Kodama, adviser to the Japanese Army and president of the Federation of Southern Regions Organizations, at a luncheon party given in his honor at the Peers' Club on Friday. The Ambassador expressed appreciation of Japan's magnanimous help in bringing about Burma's long aspired independence.

New Treaty Fulfills Dr. Sun's Wish, Declares Toyama, Friend of China

"Sun Yat-sen's wish has been actualized. It is really a matter of great joy," declared Mitsuru Toyama, veteran nationalist and ardent friend of China, on Saturday upon hearing the announcement of the signing of the Sino-Japanese Alliance Treaty.

Sitting by a desk in his eight-matted living room and fingering the leaves of his book, the venerable Mr. Toyama silently seemed to be recalling events of the past on this memorable day. As if pitying the stupidity of the Chungking regime, Mr. Toyama slowly declared, "The greatest wish of Sun Yat-sen, whom Chiang Kai-shek looked up to as teacher, father and even god, lay in driving out British influences as early as possible from the various areas of East Asia."

"It was Sun Yat-sen's great ideal, which he remembered even in sleep, to face the world after building up a complete East Asia," Mr. Toyama stated. "Today, when the one billion people of East Asia are cooperating and driving forward for the construction of a Co-Prosperity Sphere hitherto unparalleled in history, there exists no reason for Chiang Kai-shek to obstruct its way", he said.

"Of course," he asserted, "there is such a thing as force of circumstances, which one cannot always handle as one pleases, but Chiang should throw away such an idea and face the world after making solid what is under him. This great idea has today been set on the right track, so all that has to be done now is to drive forward powerfully toward the goal".

The Sino-Japanese Alliance has come about in just the form Sun Yat-sen told Mr. Toyama it would be realized, the aged patriot declared. "That is why Japan and China must join hands from their hearts and fight through until America and Britain, which are still resisting, are crushed," he concluded.

ENVOY HSIEH HAILS NEW ALLIANCE PACT

Avers Japan's Magnanimous Step Will Enable China to Recover Independence

An atmosphere of great hope and surging joy enwrapped the Chinese Embassy in Azabu-ku on Saturday. With the abolition of extraterritoriality, and the retrocession of concessions, and now the new Pact of Alliance being effected, China's age-long hope for complete independence and sovereignty had been realized.

On this memorable morning, Chinese Ambassador Tsai Pei was away, busy meeting, as he has been for the past several days, with Minister of Greater East Asiatic Affairs Kazuo Aoki, Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu, and other Japanese leaders.

On his behalf, Chinese Minister Hsieh Tsu-yuan, who took his post together with Ambassador Tsai this spring, and who, since that time, has assisted the Ambassador in all matters, stated in perfect Japanese, "It is indeed a matter of great happiness for both Japan and China."

"The signing of this new Pact," he declared, "was China's long-standing hope, and we had directed our efforts to that end. In seeing its actualization, I cannot help being grateful from my heart. The aim of the new Pact is in China's sovereignty and independence, which means that China has now finally recovered its place as a great nation of Asia.

"Not only has China's freedom been made secure by this new Pact, but the idea of sharing life or death with Japan has become more close, and the hope for the future still greater.

"Unfortunately, Chungking still has not grasped Japan's true intentions. We wish hereafter to exert still more active efforts in order to make clear Japan's true intentions to the people of China."

Wang Asserts China Will Fulfill Pledge

(Continued from Page 1)

Asia upon the shattering and purging away of Anglo-American forces of aggression and upon the urging of all the nations of Greater East Asia to unite for the realization of a Co-Prosperity Sphere, our nation is striving to strike out upon a future bright with hope, hand in hand with Japan, and both the National Government and people of China are endeavoring to share part of the burden of East Asiatic construction.

Full Play to Nation's Strength

"On January 9 this year, our country, with Japan, issued a Joint Declaration pledging all-out cooperation in the military, political and economic spheres in order to prosecute a concerted war upon the United States and Britain. Today we have gone still further and have concluded a Treaty of Alliance, a protocol annexed thereto and exchanged notes by which the Treaty governing the Basic Relations between Japan and China signed on November 30, 1940 are to lose effect.

"The National Government and people of China are deeply cognizant of the fact that the tremendous goodwill manifested in the terms of the pact is eminently calculated to promote the rise of our country in accordance with the spirit of aiding us to achieve our independence and autonomy and to give full play to our national strength so that we may cooperate all the better with Japan in fighting the War of Greater East Asia.

Amity Unshakable

"I am firmly convinced that the foundations of Sino-Japanese amity is unshakable and forever enduring and I earnestly hope that general peace throughout China will more briskly be brought about by the enforcement of the terms of the pact. The pact, therefore, should be regarded as a grand outgrowth of the friendly feelings existing between the two countries and the moral spirit common to the two nations of the East. The National Government and people of China are now resolved to carry out the terms of the pact with earnestness and zeal so that we may give return for the great goodwill shown us by Japan.

"Allow me to express to Your Excellency my admiration and felicitations over the far-reaching insight and deep sympathy shown by Your Excellency throughout the negotiations for the treaty revision and over the accomplishment of your glorious mission for the sake of both Japan and China and for the future of Greater East Asia."

Japan Getting China Carp

Domei

SHANGHAI, October 30.—The first shipment of 130,000 China-bred grass carp (cyprinoid), which is scheduled to be sent to Japan, recently reached Shanghai from Wusih fish-farm.

With authorities planning the transport of 1,000,000 young grass carp to Japan this season, the Central China Marine Products Company is now testing the possibility of shipping them by rail at an earlier period than December which is considered the most suitable month.

Rani of Jhansi Regiment Upholding Tradition of Oriental Womanhood

Indian Women Taking Up Arms to Defend Themselves Against British, Avers Minister Lakshmi; Ayer Stresses Vital Role Played by Nethaji Bose

Domei

SHONAN, October 29.—"The part that Indian women are playing in the struggle for India's independence is fully in keeping with the historic tradition of heroic Indian women," declared Miss Swaminadhan Lakshmi, Minister for the Women's Organization of the Provisional Government of Free India, in the course of a press interview today.

"Particularly do I want to make it clear we are not imitating the Western women in fighting side by side with the men but rather we are upholding the best traditions of Oriental womanhood," she emphasized.

Miss Lakshmi expressed the hope that the women of India and the women of Japan would work hand in hand after the war to continue the vital task now being done.

The only woman official in the Provisional Government, Miss Lakshmi outlined the history of the Indian women. She explained that in ancient India, the women had always played an important role in history but it was only after the British occupation of India that the women gradually secluded in their homes "because the Indian men were afraid that the British after plundering India of her wealth would violate the home and dishonor the women."

In answer to a query, Miss Lakshmi said that the women of the Rani of Jhansi Regiment are being trained in self defense not because they are expected to fight side by side with the men at the front ranks but so that they will be capable of defending themselves against the British.

"Indian women," she said, "must not hinder the cause of Indian independence and only by taking an active part in the struggle could they further the sacred mission of liberating their motherland."

Meanwhile, A. S. Ayer, Publicity Minister of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, discussed the latest political and economic developments in India and how British propaganda worked. He explained the main points in the publicity work which are not being carried out presently but which will be undertaken in the future. He particularly asked the cooperation of newspapers, which he declared was most vital.

"The so-called British Government of India in New Delhi does not have the moral support of the Indians and the only real Government is the present Provisional Government of Azad Hind established under the leadership of Subhas Chandra Bose, which will be made into a permanent national Government in India once we are on Indian soil," he declared.

This is the first time an interview was given by two ministers of the Provisional Government of Free India since its formation on October 21.

Concert Reviews

By ONAMUN-MSA.

The Nippon Philharmonic Orchestra

The first of "The Evening of Musical Appreciation" was given last Tuesday evening at the Hibiya Public Hall. The program included Weber's "Oberon" Overture, Tschaikowsky Violin Concerto, Fukai's "The Voice of Java" and Smetana's Moldau. The soloist was Miss Hisako Tsuji and Takashi Asahina conducted throughout the whole program.

The Overture to the highly romantic opera, "Oberon," by Weber was played in excellent fashion; some of the sustained dramatic vigor and tender lyrical charm were brought out very well indeed, and the lovely "Allegro con fuoco" passage, though it could have been a little more lustrous, was negotiated in a highly commendable way.

In the Tschaikowsky Concerto, Miss Tsuji showed a marked stride both musically and technically since two years ago. Of the three Movements, the first Movement was undoubtedly the best; in this Movement, she evinced a good sense of proportion and verve; her tone was firmer and carrying and generally her intonation was excellent, and there was a certain amount of interpretative insight to be discerned here and there in her playing. It was to be regretted that while her lower notes on the G string were excellent, her higher notes on the E string could be slightly improved. In the second Movement (Canzonetta), there was not enough impassioned lyricism, and the last Movement was somewhat unduely hurried. On the whole, however, it was an excellent performance, and the Orchestra supported her very well. Mr. Asahina proved to be a good musician even if he could not always get what he wanted in his recreative art of conducting.

Sueko Hirahara

There was a vocal recital at the Nippon Seinen Hall last Tuesday evening. The program was as follows— "Andacht zu meiner Welt" and "Liebesflammchen" by Weismann; "Zur Ruh', zur Ruh!", "Das Standchen" and "Elfenlied" by Wolf; "Wo ist der Ort", "Schlage die Wimper auf", and "Standchen" by Mattiesen; "Wiegenlied" and "Warnung" by Reger; "Blauer Sommer", "Ich liebe dich", "Meniem Kinde", and "Kling" by Strauss; "Tanzawa", "Uranoto", "Tsuma no Kotoba", "Wata Te no Hana" and "Nobi" by Nobutoki; "Ogimini" by Hashimoto, "Hisho", "Banshu no Uta" and "Kujukurihama" by Hirai. Aiko Kurozawa at the piano accompanied her throughout the program.

The Dai Toa Symphony Orchestra

The 9th of a series of popular concerts was held at the Tokyo Gekijo last Thursday afternoon and evening. The program included Haydn's Symphony (Military); Cello solo with Orchestra (Bruch's Kol Nidrei and Popper's Hungarian Rhapsody); J. Strauss' Waltz—"the Voice of Spring"; Sibelius' Finlandia; and Ballet with Orchestra—Weber's Invitation to the Waltz, Interlude — Schubert's Military March, and Kofune's "Dream" with the composer at the baton. The soloist was Takahashi Kurata and the Orchestra was under the direction of Hideo Saito. The Shochiku Ballet Troupe was responsible for the last two items, i.e. Weber's Invitation to the Waltz and Kofune's Dream.

The object of this concert being to popularize music through a well chosen program of what is generally termed "lighter classic" in the hope of bringing the whatever gap still left between the "classical" music and the general public who don't care about music unless it is served in an appetizing way.

In the Finale of the Haydn Symphony, the liveliness and the natural optimism were very welcome indeed and one did not mind so much about his sentiment being mainly on the surface or a predilection for irresponsible humour as long as he created something jolly. In Strauss' Voice of Spring, the contagious melody seemed to forget that there was another side to the music, namely, the fascinating lilt; it could have been a thought more flexible in rhythm. In Sibelius's Finlandia, one was for the first time brought nearer the heavy stuff and could not help dwelling on the long, bleak Winter of that northern country. The rendition of such a work as this should be difficult, for there are hardly any "lovely" melodies to fall upon and instead, the broad sweep of melodic outline under the canopy of the elemental power almost wrenched straight from the earth where he lived.

The best part of the program, from the variety point of view, was the Ballet item; the rather hackneyed Schubert's "Military March" was never so enjoyable as this afternoon and a good share of credit should go to Mr. Kofune, who evinced a natural gift of conducting and an ease of poise. The Orchestra was also in good form. The story of Kofune's "Dream" is a recollection of an aged Chinese aristocrat who reflects on his younger days only to be reminded of his present, lonely forsaken self; though the music was not quite vivid enough, there seemed to be a good suggestion of the "reverie" in movement and costume.

The Music Propagation Concert:

There was a joint recital last Thursday evening at the Hibiya Public Hall. Those who participated in the Concert were, in the order of appearance, Miss Miyoko Kako (soprano) who sang a group of Japanese songs ("A Song") by Akiyoshi, "Child's Greetings" by Akiyokoshi, "Mother's Refrain" by Hashimoto, 'To the Lord" by Hashimoto, 'The Sedan Bearers" by Kishi, and "A Refrain" by Yamada; Kenshu Wanibuchi (violin) played Vitali's Chaconne, Yamada's "Karatach no Hana", and Sarasate's Zigeunnerweisen; Susumu Nagai (pianoforte) played a selection from Chopin (Nocturn, Marzurka, Polonaise); Tamotsu Kinoshita (tenor) sang a group of Japanese songs by Taki, Hattori, Yamada and Hashimoto; the program ended with a few Spanish works for the cello, which was played by Takashi Kurata. Miss Yasuko Tani and Shinichi Takata supplied the piano accompaniments.

Never before a group of Japanese songs was so enjoyable to listen to as last Thursday evening by this gifted young singer; her items were well varied with due regard to emotional contrast and so forth, but chiefly due to her excellent rendition. She has a very pleasant, natural singing voice and homogeneous in quality throughout the whole register her very musical phrasing together with excellent enunciation was much responsible for her successful performance.

Mr. Wanibuchi displayed a good sense of perspective in the Chaconne, which was played with a firm, substantial tone. An arrangement on a popular song was played with "con sentimento". Sarasate's famous piece delighted the audience.

The exquisitely tender melodic line of Chopin's Nocturne (E-flat minor) would be sufficiently strong enough to come through any performance but the worst, though this did not imply Mr. Nagai's rendition which was very gratifying.

Mr. Kinoshita's vivid characterization is always a thing of pleasure and his enunciation was so excellent, one could follow the whole song without printed words. Taki's Moon over the Ruin" and the humorous "Oroku Musume" seemed to have made the greatest impression.

CHIANG'S PAPER HITS LINLITHGOW'S STAND

Domei

CANTON, October 30.—Condemning the attitude taken by the Marquess of Linlithgow, former Viceroy of India, in regard to the Indian national movement, the Yi Shih Pao, organ of the Chungking regime, yesterday exhorted the Indian Legislative Assembly not to yield to armed force.

The establishment of the Provisional Government of Free India in the wake of the independence of Burma caused strong repercussions in Chungking political circles. The Chiang Kai-shek clique kept this fact strictly secret and maintained complete silence on the conditions in India for some time but yesterday the Yi Shih Pao, for the first time in a long while, took up the Indian question and came out with an attack on Linlithgow's policy.

"The Indian Legislative Assembly must not yield to armed force. It is not very intelligent of the British authorities to detain the leaders of the National Congress so long. The attitude of the former Viceroy, Lord Linlithgow was such as to supply propaganda material to the enemy. It was this attitude of his that can be said to have urged the Indians to form a Provisional Government under the leadership of Subhas Chandra Bose.

"The Indian political situation now is one that is liable to frustrate our war efforts in Southeastern Asia. We wish to call the attention of the new Viceroy, Field Marshal Viscount Archibald Wavell and Lord Louis Mountbatten, commander-in-chief of the anti-Axis forces in Southeastern Asia, to this crucial point."

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S. GAINS PROMPTED PERRY'S JAPAN VISIT

Commodore's Statue Should Be Destroyed, Says Kuwata, Revealing True Motives

"Commodore Perry came to Japan primarily to secure interests for the United States at the expense of this country, determined to use military force if Japan rejected his demand. Therefore, the stone monument in his memory which stands at Kurihama, Kanagawa Prefecture, where Perry first set foot on this country, should be destroyed lest the people regard him as a benefactor of Japan."

So writes Toichi Kuwata, former Managing Director of the Japan Marine Industry Co., an authority on pelagic whaling, in the Jitsugyo-no-Nippon, an economic monthly magazine.

"Six years prior to Commodore Perry's advent," writes Mr. Kuwata, "Commodore Biddle, an American envoy, visited these shores, in 1846, to urge Japan to open the country to foreign intercourse. Up to the time of Commodore Biddle's visit here, the United States had maintained a comparatively peaceful policy toward Japan, mildly exhorting this country to open its doors just as both Britain and Russia had done.

"In those days, whaling by sailing ships was prevalent in the United States. As the Americans learned that Japanese waters abounded in whales, more and more American whalers sallied forth eastward. As many as 300 whaling-ships sailed to Japanese waters in the year that Commodore Biddle visited this country.

"As the number of American vessels bound for Japan grew, some of them, naturally suffered shipwreck or falling short of fuel and provisions arrived off the Japanese coast asking for shelter or supplies.

To Protect Whaling Industry

"Such conditions naturally led the Republican Government, then in power, to the conclusion that Japan's doors should be opened at any cost, because, otherwise, the whaling industry, which constituted a part of the heavy investment of the American people at that time, would be menaced. Thus, the desire to protect its own whaling industry formed the main cause of America's demand for an open door policy on the part of Japan.

"Therefore, Commodore Perry, well aware of his Government's intentions was firmly determined to carry out his mission. This is proved by the fact that in his report to the United States Government sent after he had set sail from America, Perry emphasized that if Japan failed to comply with his demands, several points in Japanese territory would have to be inevitably occupied. Moreover, before Perry reached Uraga Bay, other Americans tried hard to make the Ryukyu Islands an American protectorate, purchased land for storing coal on Chichi Island of the Bonin Group and also sent a special party to Taiwan to investigate the coal deposits on the spot. These steps were taken in preparation for the possible rupture in the expected negotiations between the Japanese representatives and Commodore Perry.

Backed by Armed Force

"Thus, Perry came to Japan to urge the latter to open the country for the benefit of America and at the sacrifice of Japan. The means he used were not so above board as was those of other British, Russian and American envoys who had visited this country before him. His object was to coerce Japan with military force into surrendering.

"Such pressure by a foreign country disguised under the mantle of peaceful intentions was an unprecedented experience for Japan. It was natural that the Japanese authorities at that time who were indifferent to national defense should have complied with Perry's demand for opening trade relations, for if they had rejected the American proposals, a part of Japanese soil would inevitably have been seized by the Yankees.

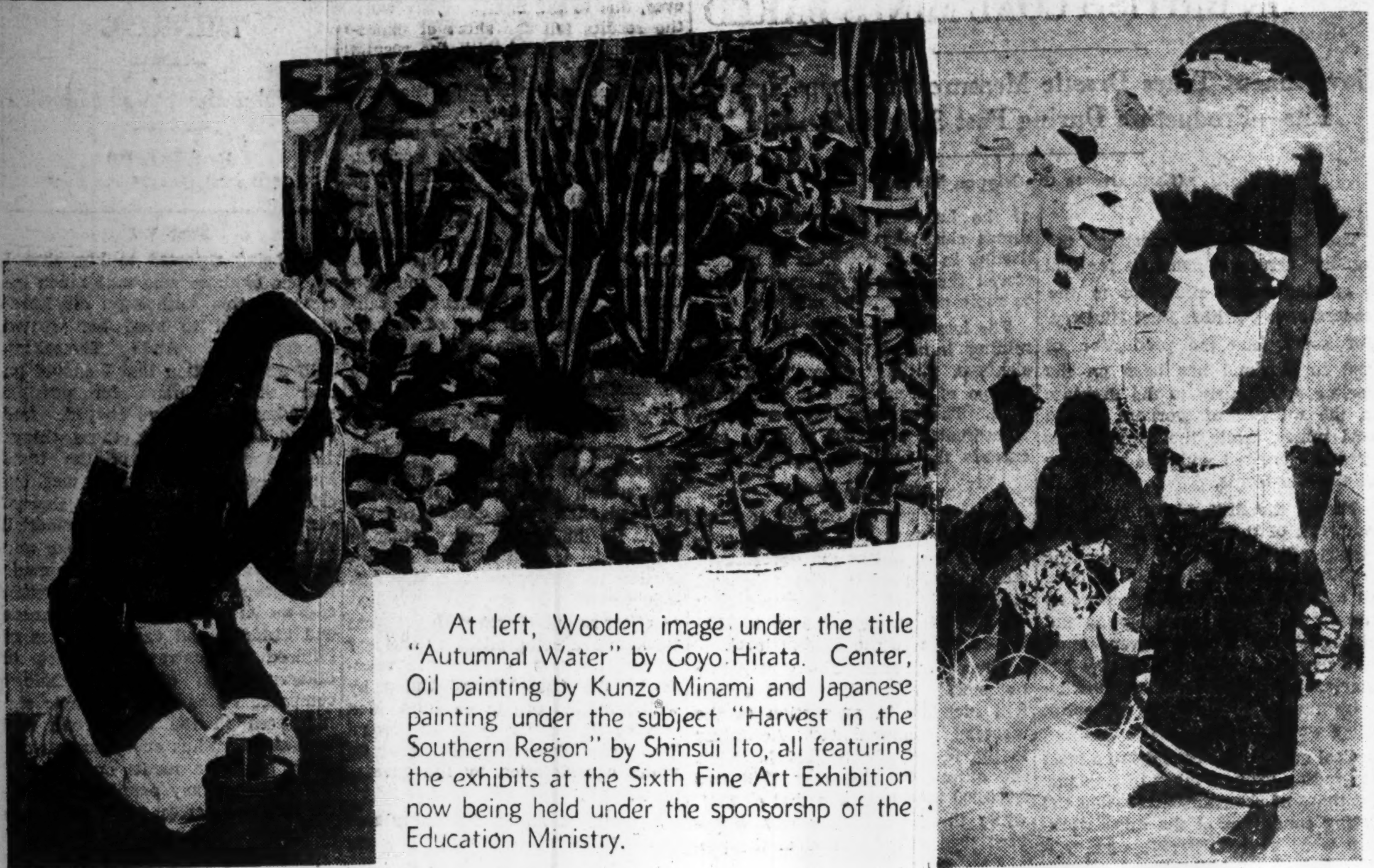
"It is true that Perry's negotiations proved one of the factors for Japan's opening the country but Japan was already surrounded by international conditions which, even without Perry's visit, would have caused this country to take the same step.

"As for the rapid national development that ensued, it is ascribable to the nation's tremendous exertions, but not to Perry's arrival.

"The existence of the monument to Perry's memory is liable to arouse mistaken notions regarding America among the people. If the monument should serve to impress the people that America was a benefactor for Japan, especially at this juncture, its continued existence would prove deterimental to our cause.

"Now that all monuments relating to Japan in the United States have reportedly been destroyed, what reason remains for preserving this monument?"

Interest in Art Unaffected by War



At left, Wooden image under the title "Autumnal Water" by Goyo Hirata. Center, Oil painting by Kunzo Minami and Japanese painting under the subject "Harvest in the Southern Region" by Shinsui Ito, all featuring the exhibits at the Sixth Fine Art Exhibition now being held under the sponsorshp of the Education Ministry.

Coming cut of the Metropolitan Art Gallery at Uyeno Park, the pleasantly tired visitor to the annual Education Ministry Art Exhibit reflects as he strolls among the fallen leaves of the park that the war, after all, has had little effect on fine art, on the aesthetic life of the citizens and on the familiar surroundings of the Gallery to which he has made a yearly visit at this time of the year. Indeed, some of the visitors bore distinct wartime markings due to their khaki-colored clothes, while many artists had chosen themes directly related to the war. But aside from these non-essential differences, this year's exhibition is no different from the past affairs that he can recollect.

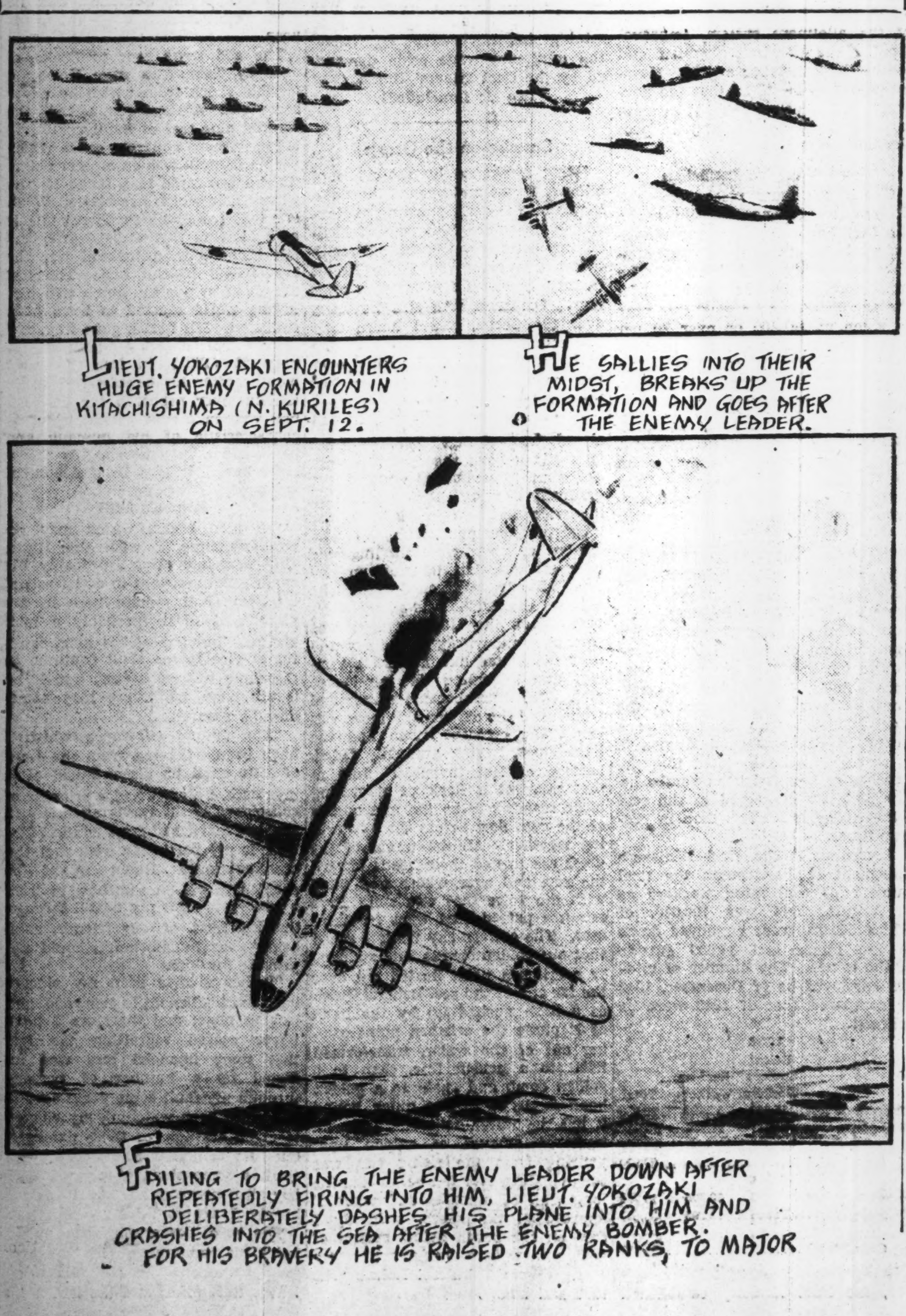
Then, suddenly, across his satiated mind flashes a startling thought, a realisation that here, in this quiet corner of East Asia's great metropolis, is art preserved in its purity safe from the maelstrom of a global war. Think of Europe, with all its museums bereft of the treasures by which the old civilization has justified its raison d'etre. Cathedrals and churches are in ruins; art galleries are closed for how long no one knows, and their contents buried in doubtful safety.

The Japanese has attained final maturity in the tradition of his own country. For the past more than 70 years he has been exposed to the leavening forces of Western art. But now all that the West had to offer has been absorbed and assimilated by the traditional painting of Japan, and the newly introduced oil painting too has had time to consummate an ultimate harmony with the ancient tradition. And the result of this blending process is a new Japanese art cultivated in the rich soil of unerring tradition. So here in Japan, war has not arrested the regular forward strides of art. When all around her she witnesses destruction and distortion of beauty, she alone provides a congenial setting for art to continue its normal progress.

Throughout the present art season, which has offered a more than usual number of excellent exhibitions, a marked feature has been noted, a deepening self-consciousness that borders upon the religious. Take for instance "The Heroes of Attu" by Tsuguji Foujita. It is a gloomy picture of the death-ward march en masse of the small Japanese contingent. Take a deep long look into its hidden soul, and you will hear a faint chorus of the death-defying soldiers in their final acts of devotion to His Majesty the Emperor, who have gained immortality through choosing gallant deaths. "Religious" is used advisedly, for, to the Japanese, to serve and die for His Majesty the Emperor is the highest spiritual law, the categorical imperative wherein Bushido and other traditional ethical precepts culminate. In sharp contrast to this realistic polychrome, veteran Taikan has painted "A Moonless Autumn Night" in masterly black and White. What does a solitary cricket's music mean in the vast obscurity of an autumn night? It seems to suggest the deep religious awakening attained through sheer devotion to what we know to be our highest duty. Hardships, pains and even death, if borne for the sake of the ideal, lead eventually to the peace of mind as serene as this scenery.

A second feature that is equally pronounced is the confident tone in which East Asiatic themes are treated. The portrait of Burma's Prime Minister Ba Maw by Usaburo Ihara and the "Indian Girl" by Kei Sato are good examples. No one can paint such inspired pictures without being thoroughly confident of the justice of Japan's war aims and of the bright future awaiting the races hitherto oppressed by imperialist Britain. Somewhat different from these but equally expressive of the artist's confidence in his country's high idealism is Kanaye Yamamoto's "Crimson Fuji." This happens to be an oil painting, but the originally alien technique is here made to serve the native faith of the artist in translating his rare spiritual moments onto the canvas. These and many more seem to prove that even the purest art is responsive to social and national sentiments, and that the artist, left unhindered by war to pursue his normal creative efforts, may be inspired by the righteousness of national cause into an ideological application of his art and still remain a good artist.

STRANGER THAN FICTION


LIEUT. YOKOZAKI ENCOUNTERS HUGE ENEMY FORMATION IN KITACHISHIMA (N. KURILES) ON SEPT. 12.
HE SALLIES INTO THEIR MIDST, BREAKS UP THE FORMATION AND GOES AFTER THE ENEMY LEADER.
FAILING TO BRING THE ENEMY LEADER DOWN AFTER REPEATEDLY FIRING INTO HIM, LIEUT. YOKOZAKI DELIBERATELY DASHES HIS PLANE INTO HIM AND CRASHES INTO THE SEA AFTER THE ENEMY BOMBER. FOR HIS BRAVERY HE IS RAISED TWO RANKS, TO MAJOR

REICH HITS FOE'S RUMOR FAMINE RAGING IN GREECE

Scribe Says Nobody Suffering From Starvation in Athens; Ample Food at Disposal

Special to the Nippon Times

ATHENS, October 29.—Replying to the claims of the British news service that a terrible famine existed in Athens where people were dying in the streets, the correspondent of a German news agency declares that nobody was starving in Greece.

The British claim was doubtlessly due to the British embarrassment over the terrible famine in India and their attempt to divert the attention from the Indian catastrophe by pointing out that similar things were happening in districts under German rule.

The correspondent explains that the German occupation of Greece was a wartime measure only, while India has been under British rule for centuries. Although the responsibility of the German authorities toward the Greek population was of quite a different nature than that of the British toward the Indian people, he stresses, the German civil commissioner in Greece, Dr. Altenburg, and the special German representative, Dr. Neubacher, with the support of the International Red Cross successfully prevented the country from being ravaged by famine.

"In Athens the people are not suffering from any lack of food," he said. "Even though prices had slightly increased, the population is, nevertheless, supplied with the necessary food stuffs."

NON-FASCISTS MAY JOIN

New Republican Party to Enroll Members on October 31

Special to the Nippon Times

ROME, October 26.—The date for the joining of the new Fascist Republican Party has been fixed for the former party members for October 31. Party Secretary Pavolini decreed that the former non-Fascists, regardless of which party they belonged to, may also join. They must however, be willing to work according to the rules of the Fascist Republican Party. The final decision then rests with the Party Secretary.

General Quizzoni to whom the defence of Sicily had been entrusted has been arrested.

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JAPAN ONLY NATION TO AID PHILIPPINES

Economic Decay Caused by American Exploitation Can Only Be Rebuilt by Nippon

Dr. Minoru Togo, member of Parliament who recently returned from a visit to the Philippines on the eve of its independence, stressed the importance of the Filipinos' understanding of the Japanese moral principle, in an interview with the Shukan Mainichi.

The following is his observation on the past American policy in the Philippines:

"The exploitation of the Philippines perpetrated by the United States while the Islands were under its rule can well be seen in the nature of the products of the archipelago.

"As the Filipinos are an Asiatic people and their staple food is rice but because rice would bring no profit to the American capitalists interested in the Philippines the growing of this cereal was not encouraged under the Stars and Stripes. On the other hand, the production of sugar, copra and tea was imposed on the Filipinos at full capacity. They made the Filipinos produce these subsidiary food articles and had them export them to America to be processed and sold to the Filipinos at fat profits to the American capitalists. The rice which the Filipinos needed, American importers in the Philippines bought from French Indo-China and other countries to make profits in selling it to the Filipinos.

Depended on Americans

"Under this irrational and wholly vicious system, the people of the Islands were unable to produce the foodstuffs they themselves needed but were compelled to produce such goods as the United States wanted and to eke out a precarious living dependent wholly on the humor of their American masters. It could hardly be called a sound or healthy manner of living.

"As the Philippines in this way had been turned into a supplier of raw materials, no manufacturing industry worthy of the name came into existence and what little in the way of a manufacturing industry the Islands boasted was under the control of American capitalists, and the people of the archipelago had very little to say in regard to their economic order.

"Moreover, the greater part of the youth of the Islands was driven to a life of indolence and pleasure-seeking after the American fashion. They wore American-made clothes and bought American-made articles for daily use or amusement and thus, unwittingly, became a further object of American exploitation.

Islands Were Exploited

"It is amusing to note that, under American rule, many smart-looking motor-cars were speeding through Manila streets, all imported from America. The shiny metal and brilliant colors proclaimed the American civilization over the Philippines. It may have been a delightful sight to the pleasure-seeking population but once one of these automobiles broke down there was not one repair shop in the whole city of Manila! To maintain a motor repair shop would have run counter to the profiteering policy of the United States. Making such huge profits from the sale of automobiles to the Philippines, it would have lowered the sales curve of manufacturers or agents to have allowed the Filipinos to maintain repair shops.

"Each household was made to buy an electric refrigerator on the monthly installment plan. Modernistic cottages, smooth driveways, smart dresses and suits—such were the means by which the United States exploited the people of the Philippines.

"When the politicians at Washington declared that they would grant independence to the Philippines in 1946, some Filipinos said that that would be too early. They argued that, although the construction of a Philippines for the Filipinos was a fine idea, there would be no real independence without economic autonomy.

Independence in Name Only

"The sort of independence the United States intended to grant the Filipinos was independence only in name with the status of an American colony as hitherto. On what basis was the Philippines to maintain itself as an independent state? This was the question asked by all intelligent Filipinos.

"In order that the Philippines may become truly independent, the empty foundations of national life, bereft of all nationality under the Americans, must be filled with the national spirit. The country must rise as an East Asian nation, robust and fully conscious of its place in the world. The Philippines, however, is still a young man. In all fields of industry and economy, they require the strong helping hand of a sister Asiatic. Japan is the only country which can do this. I think that it is in the Filipinos straightforwardly comprehending the true intentions of Japan and the moral principles animating it and is no longer being led astray by Anglo-American influences that its first step toward true independence lies.

"When we look back on the unpublicized service of men like Army expert Abe, who devoted many years of his life to the increase of rice production in the Philippines so that the Filipinos may enjoy an adequate supply of their staple food at home, the people of the Islands will realize in what direction their development must proceed. The difference between a policy of discouraging the growing of rice simply because it brought them no profits and a policy that would make sacrifices to increase the production of rice for the Filipinos is the difference between the American policy of exploitation and the Japanese policy of construction based on lofty moral principles."

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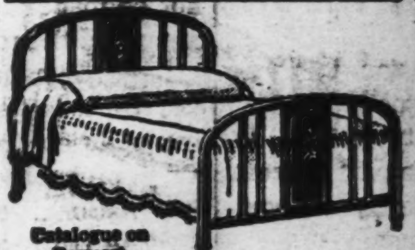
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TOKYO, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1943

The New Sino-Japanese Alliance

A Pact of Alliance between Japan and China was signed at Nanking yesterday. This is an event of profound significance not only to Japan and China but also to East Asia and to the entire world. That Alliance opens a new page in the history of Sino-Japanese relations, and at the same time it marks a big step forward in the construction of Greater East Asia.

According to the Preamble, the Pact was concluded by the Governments of Japan and China in the firm determination that the two countries shall closely cooperate as good neighbors to establish a Greater East Asia based on justice. Its principal features are:

(1) The two countries will take measures of mutual aid and amity along all lines while respecting each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity in order to maintain permanently the relationship of neighborly amity;

(2) They will extend each other cooperation and every possible assistance on a basis of reciprocity;

(3) Close economic cooperation is to be maintained on a basis of reciprocity; and

(4) The Sino-Japanese Treaty of 1941, together with all instruments annexed thereto, ceases to have effect as from the date of coming into force of the present Pact.

There is an additional Protocol whereby Japan undertakes to withdraw her troops from China upon the restoration of general peace between the two countries and the cessation of the state of war, and Japan renounces her right of stationing troops in China, which she possesses under the Peking Protocols and supplementary documents relating to the Boxer War.

Furthermore, there is an "Exchange of Notes" between the Japanese Ambassador to Nanking and the Chinese Minister for Foreign Affairs which puts on record an understanding reached between them as plenipotentiaries, reading:

"Of the matters of fait accompli existing in China at present, those that require adjustment in the light of contents of the present Pact, shall be fundamentally adjusted in accordance with the contents of the present Pact when general peace between the two countries is restored and the state of war has ceased to exist.

"Even during the continuation of the state of war the required adjustments are to be carried out in accordance with the contents of the present Pact successively as far as is permitted by circumstance through consultation between the two countries."

It should be recalled that the Japanese Government, since the announcement of the so-called "New China Policy," had concluded with the Chinese Government a series of agreements looking to the restoration of China's autonomy and independence, such as those concerning the return of Japanese concessions in Tientsin, Soochow and Hangchow, the retrocession of the Peking Legation Quarter and the International Settlements in Shanghai and Amoy, and the abolition of extraterritoriality. Now the present Pact, replacing the Basic Treaty of 1941 which has been rendered obsolete or unnecessary in parts owing to the radical change of the situation, lays the foundation for a new epochal relationship between the two countries. It means to Japan the triumph of her new policy, while to China it means the fulfilment of her national aspirations of long years. The Pact bears indeed a solemn testimony to the fact that China has now regained her full sovereignty; that she is free from the shackles of unequal treaties; and that settlements and concessions, extraterritoriality and all the vestiges of her erstwhile "semi-colonial" status have been completely wiped out. Accordingly in this respect, there exists no longer any cause for complaint on the part of the Chinese people.

Moreover the Alliance will place Sino-Japanese relations on an enduring basis of equality and reciprocity uniting the two nations as true friends and good neighbors. In fact, it is as such and also as loyal comrades in arms, that they will march forward to combat American and British aggression. This is a consummation so long and so devoutly wished for by Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the Father of the Chinese Republic, who, preaching his "Great Asia Doctrine" of Asia for the Asiatics, exhorted his countrymen to cooperate with our Japanese people for its realization.

Finally, the Sino-Japanese Alliance means the addition of another potent link to the chain of alliances that already exists for the construction of a New Order in East Asia, for Japan is allied by more or less similar pacts with Manchoukuo, Thailand, Burma, and the Philippines. It goes without saying that the present Pact will be accorded a hearty welcome by all these countries.

Nor is there a shadow of doubt that the present Pact will go far to reinforce the unity and fighting power of East Asia as a whole, and hasten the attainment of its high purpose to bring about not only its common prosperity and well-being but also universal peace, happiness and good will.

Knox the Traitor

In his Navy Day speech at Philadelphia last Wednesday, Colonel Frank Knox, the United States Secretary of the Navy, made the astounding proposal that the Democratic and Republican parties should adopt at their national conventions next year substantially identical platforms with respect to foreign policy. It was an astounding utterance in view of its sheer irrelevance to the subject of naval problems which Knox was supposed to be dealing

As to his reason for making such a proposal, Knox declared that it was vital to the war efforts of the anti-Axis Powers that the question of America's relations with other nations, particularly with her allies, should not be made a political issue. And obviously assuming the role of a great deliverer, he said. "Here's a chance for the two great parties of the United States to make a great common contribution to our success in the war and very probably to our successful conduct of international relations after the war."

The truth of it is that Knox's proposal is political subterfuge in the interests of a fourth term for Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the megalomaniac in the White House. It is at once clear that there would be no incentive to the American voter to cast his ballot for the Republican presidential candidate if his party's platform were "substantially identical" to the opposition's. That is so because it would be his natural impulse to shrink from "changing horses in mid-stream" while his country is at war. Knox's proposal is political subterfuge because there is no doubt at all now that President Roosevelt is bent on running for his fourth term. If the foreign policy platforms of the two parties are the same, Roosevelt's satellites could very well use that fact to their advantage to argue that there is no cause for changing the country's chief executive. And that precisely is Knox's reason for his proposal.

Behind it all, there is another very significant point. By his action Knox revealed his utter lack of scruple. It was an action traitorous to his own party, the Republican Party. Knox was the running mate of the unsuccessful Republican presidential candidate, Alfred Landon, in 1936. Irrespective of the fact that he accepted Roosevelt's appointment subsequently as Navy Secretary—in itself a traitorous act to the Republican party politically—Knox should have steered clear from the political campaign of next year, if he has any conscience.

It is clear too that Knox has his eye on another four years as Navy Secretary in Roosevelt's Cabinet. Otherwise, he would not have made such a proposal in his Navy Day speech. To be addressed as "Mr. Secretary of the Navy" instead of plain "Mr. Knox," must be too exhilarating, indeed, for this former newspaper publisher to think of returning to his own profession.

A Year Ago Today

October 31, 1942

As the first Congressional elections in the United States since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, the forthcoming elections on November 3 are expected to reveal the declining popularity of the Roosevelt administration as the result of the blunders committed in the prosecution of the war. The growing lack of confidence in Roosevelt and his cohorts is said to have been further accelerated by the disastrous defeat suffered by the American navy in the Battle of the South Pacific.

* * *

Indicative of the further aggravating disturbance in India, a bomb explosion occurred once again in the neighborhood of a police station in Bombay. In view of the incident, the Bombay city authorities proclaimed a decree to prohibit the sales of fireworks and all explosives until the end of this year.

The Lunghai railway line was put out of operation when Japanese artillery forces destroyed a railway bridge, 60 kilometers west of Lingpao, northwest Honan Province, by scoring direct hits on the bridge across the Yellow River,

CRITICAL SHORTAGE OF LABOR IN BRITISH COAL MINES BARED

Government Takes Drastic Measures to Keep Men in Pits—Production During Past 3 Years Studied

(Exclusive to the Nippon Times)

Part I

The problem of meeting the rapidly increasing demands for coal is causing much headache to the leaders of the British Fuel Ministry. For some time the production of coal in England has been on the decline due largely to the decrease in the number of workers in the coal mines, while the demand has greatly increased with the widening of the war-fronts.

Facing the fifth winter since the outbreak of the war in Europe the British Fuel Ministry is making frantic efforts to solve the problem of coal shortage. Besides enforcing utmost economy in consumption and strengthening its control over supply and demand, the Fuel Ministry has started a movement in conjunction with the Labor Ministry to recruit more workers for the coal mines.

Coal mining was considered a most degrading form of labor in England. In times of economic depression the living conditions of the mine workers were most miserable and even in the most flourishing periods the coal mining districts fared very badly as compared with other occupational fields that at one time the government even went so far as to encourage coal miners to seek employment in other more lucrative fields.

Production Has Waned

In line with the speed-up in the war industries following the outbreak of the war, the coal mining industry also witnessed brisk activity for a time. Production, however, began to wane since Dunkirk as export of coal to the continent and Mediterranean regions practically stopped with the fatal evacuation. And fearing invasion, part of the coal mine workers were immediately drafted to strengthen the defense forces. As a consequence, production of coal began to show a marked decrease while war industries kept on expanding and the demand from this source soon dwindling output caused by the increasing number of mine workers drafted and the shifting of the mine workers to more profitable war industries.

To meet the change in the situation, the government cast aside its former policy and created a Fuel Ministry headed by Major Lloyd George in the Wartime Cabinet.

In order to rationalize production and consumption, the new Fuel Ministry divided the coal producing areas into districts and appointed a regional controller in each district to supervise and keep tab on production, mining facilities, health and morale of the coal mine workers and efficiency in general.

The results were fairly satisfactory. During the period from the summer of 1941 to the end of the year, the net increase in labor power was 2 per cent for all the districts or about 14,000 workers. For some time thereafter there was no noticeable change in the number of workers. The tendency of late, however, is towards a decline.

Reduced by 3,000

On August 2 of this year the Fuel Minister announced in Parliament that the total number of coal mine workers was 706,000, but in an interview a little over a month later published in the September 19 issue of the Sunday Times, the Fuel Minister gave the total number of coal mine workers as 703,000 or a reduction of 3,000 in little over a month.

According to the July, 1943 issue of the Oxford Statistical Society, the quarterly records of coal production and labor power since the outbreak of war were as follows:

	Production (In 1000 tons)	Labor Power (In 1000 workers)
1939:		
Jan.-Sept.	Omitted	Omitted
Oct.-Dec.	59.321	758
Annual Output.	231.333	Average 766
1940:		
Jan.-Mar.	55.978	760
Apr.-June	61.974	764
July-Sept.	55.138	775
Oct.-Dec.	51.174	717
Annual Output.	224.294	Average 749
1941:		
Jan.-Mar.	50.250	675
Apr.-June	51.065	690
July-Sept.	51.616	697
Oct.-Dec.	53.414	707
Annual Output.	206.345	Average 698
1942:		
Jan.-Mar.	50.929	707
Apr.-June	49.871	708
July-Sept.	49.940	711
Oct.-Dec.	52.893	711
Annual Output.	203.633	Average 709
1943:		
Jan.-Mar.	50.772	712
Apr.-June	—	706
July-Sept.	—	703

Note: The total output for the year 1938 is given at 227.016.000 tons.

According to the above statistics there is a slight increase in labor power during the period of 19 months from July, 1941 to March 1943. The increase, however, is due to a labor expansion policy instituted by the government and can hardly be regarded as an achievement of the Labor Ministry and it becomes clear that if the subsequent decline in labor power is to be bolstered the government must resort to some other special measure.

The loss of manpower in the coal mining industry due to accidents, sickness, military conscription and change of occupations is extremely high. The average loss per month is estimated at 20,000 workers and exceeds the available replacements.

Liable to Drop

From the records of July to August of this year it is generally conjectured that unless the government take special steps to bolster the coal mining industry, labor power during the 1943-44 period will drop to 710,000 or even to the 690,000 level.

The past records show that it does not necessarily follow that output will increase in proportion to the increase in labor power. According to the report of the Fuel Ministry, the output for the year 1942 was 2,700,000 tons less than that of 1941, while the labor power during the year 1942 exceeded that of the previous year.

If it is to be taken for granted that output increases in direct proportion to the increase in labor power, the output for 1942 as compared to that of 1941 should be greater by at least 4,000,000 tons. And if the declining tendency in output during the past few months continues it is estimated that the total output for the year 1943 based on the present labor power will fall short of 200,000,000 tons.

Let us here compare the production efficiency during the first World War and that of the present war. The records of the former were obtained from the reports of the Oxford Statistical Society and those of the latter from the parliamentary records of June, 1943.

	Average Weekly Output Per Worker	Compared With 1913 (base year)
1913	502	100
1914	*	—
1915	521	104
1916	503	100
1917	479	95
1918	445	89

* Records unobtainable.

		Compared With 1938 (base year)
1938	557	100
1939	581	104
1940	577	103
1941	567	102
1942	550	99
1943 up through May	540	97

The decline in efficiency during the present war is less compared to the first World War. This is due largely to the timely institution of the allotment system, improvement in the distribution system and to the drop in labor strifes. However, it is to be noted that the government has yet to succeed in solving the declining tendency in production efficiency.

Aged Workers Inefficient

One of the main reasons for the decline in efficiency is said to be the increase in the number of aged workers, which is an unavoidable phenomenon of wartime. The total number of coal miners past the age of 50 as of August this year is given at 141,200 or over 20 per cent of all the coal mine workers and one can easily see what effect this will have on production efficiency as the war drags on.

The younger workers, in comparison with the aged workers, have more stamina, but they seem to be less steady than the older workers. The high rate of absentees especially among the younger workers is one of the serious problems of the coal mining industry.

It was generally believed that miners of less than 18 years old were being employed in large numbers to fill the gap of labor shortage and that efficiency had dropped due to the influx of those inexperience hands. This source of grievance, however, was reflected by the Fuel Minister, who in reply to a query in Parliament on August 3, is reported to have stated that the number of inexperienced youths below 18 years employed in the coal mines today is far less than in prewar times.

According to the Fuel Minister's statement in Parliament, the total number of coal mine workers as of August, 1943 was 706,000, of which 545,000 were employed down in the mines and 16,000 outside of the mines. The number of minors employed as of December, 1942 as compared that of 1938 were as follows:

	Below Surface Workers	Surface Workers	Total
1938			
16 years or less	15.262	11.726	26,988
16 to 18 years	29.088	11.246	40.334
Grand total			67.322
1942			
16 years or less	8.803	10.906	19.709
16 to 18 years	21.225	12.396	33,621
Grand total			53,330

In order to counteract labor fatigue, the Fuel Ministry established canteens for the mine workers and improved medical facilities. However, due to the nature of the work the results fell far short of expectation as compared with the results in the other war industries and a movement was started by the Coal Miners' Union and other interested parties for allotment of special food ration coupons to the mine workers. But as the granting of this favor would mean that workers in other war industries would clamor for similar treatment, the government is hesitant in acting on this plan. On the surface it is a moot question whether the establishment of canteens or the granting of special food-ration coupons will be sufficient "bait" to attract workers to the coal mines.

Bonus System in Force

In order to increase production, a bonus system is now in force. Under this system should the production in a given district exceed the set quota for the period, every miner in the district is paid a bonus in proportion to the excess output. This inducement, however, has no marked effect as the efforts of the diligent workers are being offset by the less diligent workers that a plan advanced by the Coal Miners' Union by which miners are to be subdivided into smaller units so as to reward the more deserving is presently under consideration by the government.

Low wages among the coal miners as compared with the renumerations in the other war industries are also a seed for discontentment. According to the June, 1943 report of the Labor Ministry, wages of all coal mine workers (including minors) have increased 65 per cent during the period from September, 1939 to March, 1943, but it must not be overlooked that there has also been a corresponding increase in wages in other industries, the general increase in all industries as of January, 1943, as compared with the wage scale of October, 1938 being also 65 per cent. And it might be pointed out that the pre-war wage scale in the coal mining industry was far less than the wage scale in other industries despite the unpleasant nature of the work and higher risks involved. (According to the August 18, 1943 issue of the Economist, one-sixth of all industrial injuries originate in the mines).

There are those who attempt to defend the low-wage scale in the coal mining industry on the ground that the living standard in the coal mining districts is comparatively low and hence a high-wage scale is unnecessary. Such a contention can hardly be admissible.

It is difficult to believe that in a country like England where the communications system is so advanced the coal mining districts alone could be marked off as having an especially low standard of living.

At the annual meeting of the trade unions held in September, a mild sensation was caused, as was reported in the September 7, 1943 issue of the Times, when it was revealed that the wages paid to mining industry were far below the minimum wage scale demanded by the Coal Miners' Union.

(To Be Concluded)

Sunrise on the Ocean

Being awakened by the noise of billows, I rose and opened the door. It was on the early morning of November 4th in the 29th year of Meiji at the Saimeiro, Choshi. Directly below this hotel rolled the Pacific Ocean. It was a few minutes after four. Darkness was still hovering over the Ocean, and I heard only the sound of the waves breaking high on the rocks. Looking over the eastern sky, I saw smoked birch color lying along the horizon.

Looking up, I saw the moon had already been changed from a golden to a silver bow: the dusky eastern sky came to be flushed with yellow, gradually clearing. Rising waves on the wide ocean were black in the lower part, but pale on the top. The shadow of night was still lingering over the sea, but the eastern sky was already awakened and the night of the Pacific was about to depart. Soon the Morning light was spreading out widely in the sky and over the water like flowers blooming, and extending like circle-ripples. The water became whiter and whiter and the eastern sky more yellow. The crescent moon and the light-house, having gradually faded, became at last invisible. Just at that moment a flock of migrating birds seeming to be the messengers of the sun, flew across the sky crying together. All the waves of the great sea turned their heads toward the east and everywhere was filled with the voice that was still. Five minutes passed, and then ten minutes. The eastern sky while I gazed shot out golden sparks, and suddenly a crimson point floated out over the far end of the sea. Behold! Quick as a flash pushed up by the hand of Neptune the crimson point coming out of the water, transformed itself to a golden line, then to a golden comb and again to a golden hoof; finally with one quick bound it left the water entirely. Then an immense amount of golden light pouring from the rising sun was seen rippling over the ocean like the long trail of a snake and when it approached the shore, suddenly I saw on the beach below sprays of golden snow spreading about twenty feet. (From Tokutomi Roka's "Nature and Man.")

JAPANESE WAY OF THINKING

Keichu the Scholar-Monk

By SANTARO
Of the Nippon Times Staff

Part VII

"It being reported to him that I am one of those who take much interest in this Anthology, his Lordship deigned to send his trusted scholar-vassal, Ando Tameakira, with an injunction that I should go over these volumes for possible amendments. I have obeyed. And I find in this work these things done: the language of the texts lucidly explained, their meaning clarified, the characters thereof carefully weighed and considered, and the punctuations rectified; and moreover, many references are made to appropriate passages in ancient and modern classics, both Japanese and Chinese, and various verses of kindred or contrasting nature in different parts of the Anthology compared so as to make their significances all the more vivid and impressive. Thus every conceivable effort has been made; not a detail wanting that may possibly be missed. It is as perfect a work as men can make. Through it shines forth the mind of its author to illuminate the minds of scholars to the remotest age. It will give them the same joy as one will feel when one finds in darkness a lighted candle or a ferry-boat at the bridgeless river. Such is the mighty gift of the Prince to the world, and how shall I, an ignoramus, add anything to, or detract from it? Such is my humble opinion of the Book and therefore set down as a batsu thereto.

"Reverentially written on a starlit evening in the 13th year of Genroku (1700).

"By Keichu, Enjuan, Higashi-Kozu, Naniwa province."

Visits Mitsukuni

Ando Tameakira tarried in Osaka till July (1700) when he had a startling news that his Lordship, Mitsukuni, was ill, and started on his journey at once, reaching Mito in August. He found his master apparently not very bad, and he made a full report of the result of his mission in Kansai, at which Mitsukuni was very gratified, especially at the excellent epilogue of Keichu, in which he was deeply impressed to note that Keichu said not a word about his own contribution in the work. Despite Keichu's flattering remark, the book was yet to be improved before it might be presented to the Imperial Court which was Mitsukuni's plan; and he gave orders that Tameakira, together with his colleagues of Shokokan, should continue their Manyo studies with Keichu as coach and adviser. Not long after this, however, Mitsukuni's condition worsened, and he died on December 6 of the same year.

The sad news sent to Osaka at once by Tameakira gave Keichu a terrible shock from which he never recovered. About the same time the "sacred pine tree of Sumiyoshi" had fallen without apparent cause which people thought was an ominous sign. Keichu wondered in a tanka if "the wintry gale which has blasted Western Hill (referring to Mitsukuni) is now blowing this way." After the late Shimokobe, Mitsukuni was the best friend Keichu had. The last chords of sympathy which tied him to the world seemed to have been sundered. His health gave way, and after a short illness he died on January 25 (1701), in less than two months after his benefactor's death. Keichu, ever prepared for his last, had written a will which, being so characteristic of his humane and pious spirit, may be roughly translated here. It is a brief document made of six paragraphs.

Keichu's Will

"In case I die, which may occur any time, I wish that Rigen (his 'associate priest', probably his confidential assistant in ecclesiastical matters) shall remain here in my place, and Risei (probably a man servant) in view of his long, faithful service to me shall continue in the same way as before, but, if he leaves here, his living may somehow be assured.

"The annual allowance which I have been receiving from the Lord of Mito shall be discontinued after my death. I always had a pricking of conscience about receiving this gift, wishing that I had gone without it.

"It is my particular wish that the aforementioned Rigen might be enabled to get on somehow at least a few years after my death, through the kindness of our friends, as I, being poor in substance, could not provide for him.

"It has always been my sincere wish to give benefit to everyone, and loss to none, and therefore I have never ceased regretting the fact that some financial loss was inflicted on a number of persons through my fault some years ago. I had since been watching my chance to make amends for those damages, but in this matter as in others my act has come short of my wish. I beg all concerned to remember how keenly I regret this."

The next paragraph goes on to voice his compunction in the same vein for the other obligations he leaves unfulfilled, and the last is an instruction about the disposal of his books and papers, including those of his friend, Nagaru.

So he died a poor man, if not in poverty. His literary works, about 30 kinds, made up some 100 volumes in all, which, considerable as they are, are less than what might have been if he had lived a few more years or begun his literary career at an earlier date. Keichu was rather a late starter as literary worker. His first 30 years were passed exclusively as Shingon priest and Chinese scholar. There was a struggle for existence he waged in the form of routine duties as member of the ecclesiastical community. Also the inward struggle, despite his consolation of religion, had continued till he found his peace of mind in Izumi Province. It was during his residence at Mancho that he found a new incentive in life, a bright outlook on the future: his study for native classical literature, begun at this time, soon developed into the absorbing passion of his life, and it gave him a complete sense of spiritual satisfaction which he did not succeed in finding either in religious practices or in Chinese learning.

A Double Character

Monumental as his literary career was, it was but one side of his life. The other, and, to him, the more significant half, was his religious life, hidden, however, from the popular eye because of the preponderant importance attached to his literary achievements. Be it remembered that he had received, long before he had commenced his systematic literary labors, the sacred sacrament of Bosatsukai, and "Anryu, no Kancho," a Buddhist baptism which was the highest rite of ablution Shingon votaries could receive, and that he has kept to the last moment his condition of quasi-priesthood, his house, Enjuan, being a species of lay temple dedicated to the religion.

There is something occult about the Shingon theology beyond the range of secular comprehension, but in Keichu's case we may say that his spiritual life, apparently unconnected with his literary studies, was in fact the inspirer of them, for it was obviously his religious spirit of consecration which made his works not only possible but of so invaluable and enduring a nature. He did what he believed Providence bade him do with no eye for worldly tribute. Else why should he have any scruple about receiving Mitsukuni's pension? The Bosatsukai, referred to, involved the taking of solemn oath of chastity, etc., decreed in the following terms.

"Do not kill; do not steal; do not loudly associate with women; do not be parsimonious; do not drink intoxicating liquors; do not scold; do not praise yourself or belittle others; do not slander; do not be angry; despise not the Three Treasures (the Buddha, the law and the priesthood)."

Final Victory

As a Buddhist scholar and theologian Keichu scarcely had a peer in the Empire. He was said to be a master of the three "Zo"—the sutras, 'Ritsu" (laws) and "Ron" (arguments), and once he copied by hand the whole of "Giki" (Shingon scriptures) in 300 volumes and had them deposited in Hoganji temple of Ikoma, which are preserved there till today.

According to all who knew him, Keichu was a good-natured man with a sweet temper and unruffled manners; but when he found men denouncing Shingon doctrines or erroneously propounding them, he was almost fierce in correcting them. As preacher or lecturer he was impressively eloquent and he had a wonderful memory. When asked how many tanka he knew by heart, he modestly replied, "Not more than 3,000." His lectures were embellished with many poems, and quotations from various anthologies and classical works, which he cited "with the marvelous easiness of the conjurer who fetches out wonderful things out of his magic box."

Meek and modest as he was, there was at the bottom of Keichu's heart a glow of celestial solace and a serene sense of peace and dignity, and this was to him more precious than the favors of princes or the plaudits of the masses. His refusal of the hand of personal acquaintanceship the Prince of Mito had stretched out to him, though done in the humblest manner, was as much a sign of his humility as of his invincible pride in his own destiny which indeed made him willing to climb but not to crawl.

After all, Keichu did not do half so badly even in a worldly sense. He had suffered bad weather for the first 30 years, but then his fortunes began to improve; he found his helpful friends both at Hisai and Mancho, followed by Abbotship of Myohoji and his happy reunion with his mother and brother; his fruitful friendship with Nagaru begetting his recognition by the greatest Prince in the land; crowned at last with his undisputed supremacy in classical letters which continues undimmed for centuries till today, nay, as long as the history of Japanese literature lasts. In the 24th year of Meiji (1791) Keichu was posthumously honored with the Court Rank of Shoshii (the Senior Grade of the Fourth Court Rank). Keichu had early renounced this world only to gain in the end the highest tribute it could afford.

(End)